

## Nunes pushing levee protection for Visalia

Rep. Nunes is pushing a measure that would direct the Army Corps of Engineers to evaluate two levees near Visalia and the potential for a construction project to strengthen them.

In a letter to the Chairman of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Don Young, Rep. Nunes requested that Young's Committee pass a "survey resolution" authorizing the Army Corps of Engineers to conduct a study to determine the feasibility of providing flood protection for the affected areas and to include the feasibility of bringing these levees up to existing FEMA and Corps standards.

The effort stems from a flood hazard study by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) looking at the Kaweah Distributary System, which include reaches of the Kaweah River, St. Johns River, Mill Creek, Packwood Creek, Cameron Creek, and Persian Ditch.

The entire study is within the 21st Congressional District and is being performed at the request of the City of Visalia. The purpose of the study is to examine and evaluate the flood hazard areas in the community to determine flood elevations and risks. This data will be used by the community to carry out the floodplain man-

agement objectives of the National Flood Insurance Program. It will also be used as the basis for determining the appropriate flood insurance premium rates for buildings and their contents.

During this process, the City of Visalia has been made aware of deficiencies within St. Johns River Levee Districts No. 1 and No. 2. Unfortunately, these two levee districts have been inactive for many years and there has been a lack of maintenance on the levee system under their jurisdiction. City officials were told that FEMA may decertify these levees during the flood study thereby eliminat-

ing, on paper, flood protection for many of Visalia residents.

This would require many residents to pay flood insurance premiums they would not have otherwise paid if the levees were certified.

In light of levee breaches and flooding in Northern California and Louisiana in recent years, as well as heavy rains in 2006, Rep. Nunes said it remains imperative that flood control measures and safety projects are a high priority.

Learn more about what Rep. Devin Nunes is doing by visiting his website at [www.nunes.house.gov](http://www.nunes.house.gov)

## Year in Review - Nunes by the numbers

In 2005, Rep. Nunes was busy giving his time to constituents and local industry and interest groups while at the same time fulfilling his obligations to the House of Representatives. In fact, Rep. Nunes held over 461 meetings with constituents, industry and interest groups. He also participated in 141 official activities of the House of Representatives. Rep. Nunes has also attended 62 local events and gave 88 interviews to the media.

Since taking office in 2003, Rep. Nunes has held over 1,392 meetings with constituents and industry groups. He has participated in 312 official activities of the House of Representatives and has given 60 speeches. Rep. Nunes has also attended 246 local events and given 234 inter-



**Rep. Devin Nunes, far left, speaks with Secretary of Agriculture Johanns and farmers at the Fresno County Fairgrounds about the Farm Bill.**

views to the media.

Other highlights from 2005:

Rep. Nunes cast 671 recorded votes and 362 voice votes on issues that are vital to the United States - a total of 1,033 votes.

More than 168,000 web surfers visited Rep. Nunes'

website. Among the top pages viewed were the ones for tour information, news releases, contact information, Patriot Act information, Rep. Nunes' biography, 21st district profile, the Nunes Report, and legislative issues.

Rep. Nunes wrote to

17,793 constituents in response to their inquiries. Since Rep. Nunes was elected to Congress he has responded to 45,608 constituent letters via the U.S. Mail.

Top 10 Issues in 2005 - Social Security, Judicial, Health, Defense, Homeland Security, Resources, Government Affairs, Environment, Taxes, and Immigration

Rep. Nunes helped 477 constituents overcome problems with government agencies and is currently assisting 539 others. Furthermore, since Rep. Nunes was elected to Congress he has directly solved cases for 1,477 constituents.